

South Carolina Commission for the Blind

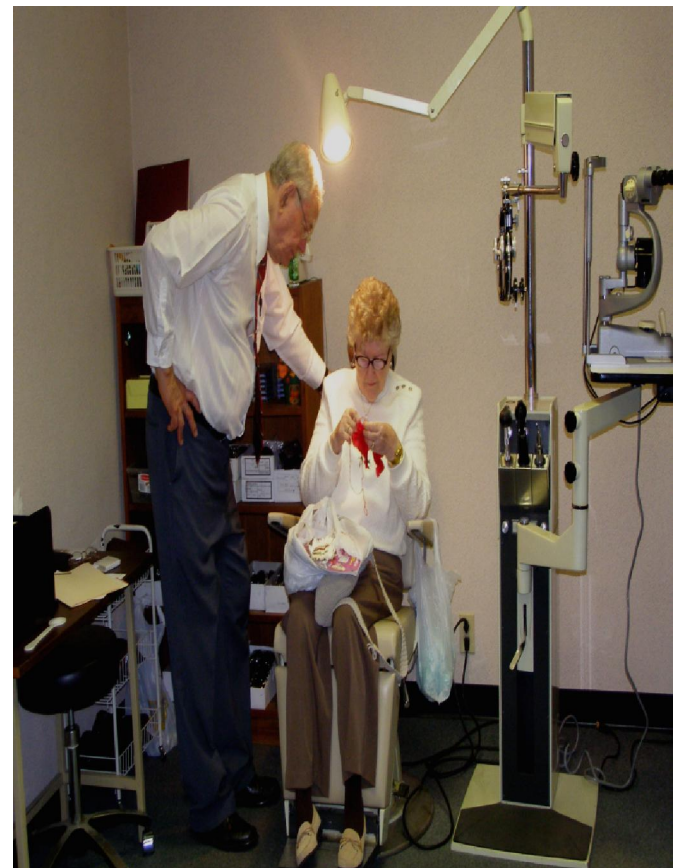


Mission

The mission of the South Carolina Commission for the Blind is to provide quality, individualized vocational rehabilitation services, independent living services and prevention of blindness services to blind and visually impaired consumers leading to competitive employment and social and economic independence.

Eligibility for Services

- Eligibility for most services is contingent upon meeting the legal definition of blindness: having a central visual acuity of 20/200 in the better eye with best corrective lens, or a visual field of 20 degrees or less.
- Individuals with a severe visual disability that will result in legal blindness are also eligible for services.



Programs

- Vocational Rehabilitation
- Training and Employment
- Business Enterprise Program
- Older Blind Program





Vocational Rehabilitation Services

- **Adjustment to Blindness-** introduces adaptive methods of performing activities of daily living (i.e. cooking, sewing, cleaning, financial management)
- **Independent Living Services-** enhance independence within the home environment
- **Transition Services-** assist with transition from high school to college or employment
- **Deaf-Blind Services-** work with consumers who have dual sensory impairments
- **Orientation and Mobility Training-** teach independent travel using the white cane in both urban and rural environments.
- **Vocational Evaluation/Job Training, Placement and Post-Employment Services**

Ellen Beach Mack Rehabilitation Center (EBMRC)

- Residential facility that builds self-confidence through vocational rehabilitation and adjustment to blindness
- Average stay is 16 weeks
- Services include:
 - Vocational Evaluation
 - Specialized training
 - Adjustment to Blindness
 - Orientation and Mobility
 - Homemaking Skills
 - Communication-Braille, Typing, Signature Writing
 - Recreational Activities



Training and Employment



- **Technology Training-** provides assessment and training for consumers in the use of computers and other Assistive Technology.
- **Telecommunication Training Center-** provides training for consumers who meet skill level requirements in the use of assistive technology to perform telephone customer service work
- **Employment Consulting Unit-** Works with employers and job ready consumers to develop employment opportunities and facilitate employment for our consumers.
- **Technical Unit-** ensure that potential barriers to employment are addressed through the use of assistive technology .

Business Enterprise Program

- Trains, license, and place qualified blind vendors in food service facilities located in public and private buildings in SC.
- Places vendors along SC interstates.
- This course is 12 weeks: 4 weeks in the classroom and 8 weeks OJT.



Other Services



Low Vision Services

- Provide diagnostic evaluations of low vision needs and training in the use of magnifiers, glasses and other aids that maximize remaining vision.

Prevention of Blindness Services

- Assist with medical services that help restore sight or maintain vision.
- Must meet financial requirements.
- Services include:

Eye Examinations and Re-examinations

Medical Treatment for Eye Disease

Screening Program

Surgery and Hospitalization

Information and Counseling